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A NEW BIRD FOR THE KANSAS LIST, TAKEN AT LAWRENCE.

By L. L. DYCHE, University of Kansas, Lawrence.

AT THE twenty-first annual meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science, which was held at Leavenworth, November 1 and 2, 1888, both Col. N. S. Goss and Dr. F. H. Snow reported the surf-scoter, *Edemia perspicillata*, as occurring in Kansas for the first time. The single specimen to which they referred was taken October 29, 1887, above the Lawrence dam, by Mr. A. L. Bennett, a student of the writer at that time.

On October 24, 1908, just twenty-one years later, another scoter was secured above the Lawrence dam, by Mr. George Weyermiller. This specimen proved to be a young female American scoter, *Edemia americana*. Just one week later, Mr. Edward E. Brown, of the University of Kansas, shot another specimen of the same species, at Lake View, about five miles northwest of Lawrence. Each of the above specimens was alone when killed. Both birds have been mounted by Mr. Alex. Wetmore, a museum assistant of the writer, and added to the University bird collections.

The American scoter is found throughout about the same regions as the surf-scoter and the white-winged scoter. The scoters belong for the most part to the northern part of the North American continent. They especially occur in the neighborhood of Newfoundland, the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes. In winter these birds are common on the Atlantic coast, and individuals are said to wander as far south as Florida.

The American scoter also lives and breeds on the Behring Sea coast of Alaska and adjacent islands and territory. Stragglers have been picked up in a number of the northern and north-central states and as far south as Lawrence, Kan.

The scoters are mollusk-eating ducks and are not considered a very good table bird. The writer knows from his own dissections that they eat fish; and the meat of specimens killed in Alaska was so strongly tainted with fish that no member of my party, except the Indians, could eat it.